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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/622,696	07/21/2003	Wen-Chieh Wang	WANG3188/EM	4393

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EXAMINER

PAPE, ZACHARY

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 02/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/622,696

Applicant(s)

WANG ET AL.

Examiner

Zachary M. Pape

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6 and 7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claim 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. With respect to claim 6, it is unclear what is meant by a "standard 85-key keyboard". The examiners personal "standard" keyboard for example, has 104 keys. Applicant is required to clarify and/or correct both the specification and the claims as to what is meant by a "standard 85-key keyboard".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1,2,3,6,7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gaultier (Patent # 5,758,297), in view of Paajanen et al. (Patent # 5,189,632) and further in view of Bae (Patent # 6,640,114). With respect to claim 1, Gaultier teaches a

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portable computer (encased in a shell) having a hidden keyboard structure (6), comprising: a shell having a top face (1), and four peripheral sides (as illustrated in Fig 2), said shell having installed in said top face thereof an LCD panel (2, Column 2, Lines 57-58) and an alphanumeric keyboard (6, Column 2, Lines 64-65), a protecting cover (5) pivoted to one of said peripheral sides adjacent to the keyboard of said shell by a coupling means thereof and adaptable to cover said keyboard (Column 2, Lines 66 – Column 3, Lines 1-2), said protecting cover having an outer face (As illustrated in Fig 1), an inner face opposite to said outer face (As illustrated in Fig 2). Gaultier fails to teach a plurality of buttons located on said outer face, and a cursor controlling device located on said inner face; and a cable device connected between said shell and said protecting cover for transmitting signals from said buttons and said cursor control wherein said cursor controlling device is a touchpad.

5. Paajanen et al. teaches the use of a plurality of buttons (6) located on the outer face of a personal computer cover. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the buttons located on the exterior of the cover of Paajanen et al. with the cover and PC of Gaultier to provide an additional means for inputting data into the CPU while the cover is closed. (Buttons could be placed such that they avoid interfering with the tablet portion (F-P) on the front cover such as along the side, etc.) Further operating the PC of Gaultier with the external keypad on the cover allows for the cover to remain closed while operating the keyboard thus reducing unnecessary bulk.

6. Further Bae teaches the use of a touchpad (24) located on the interior of a cover for a cellular phone and a means of coupling the touch pad (24) to the processor (28, Column 3, Lines 1-3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the touchpad located on the inside of the cover of Bae and the coupling means between the processor and the touchpad with the cover and PC of Gaultier to provide an alternative and more versatile means for navigating through the software. Further the coupling device provides a required medium for which data can transfer between any devices located on the cover and the CPU.

7. With respect to claim 2, Bae fails to further disclose that the cable device includes a flexible printed circuit. However the use of flexible printed circuits are notoriously old and obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art as a versatile means to connect two electronic devices.

8. With respect to claim 3, Gaultier further teaches that the shell further includes a plurality of buttons (3,4) on the top face for signal input.

9. With respect to claim 6, Gaultier further teaches the use of an alpha-numeric keyboard (As illustrated in Fig 3), but fails to teach that it is a "standard 85-key keyboard". It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use either the keyboard of Gaultier or any other "standard" keyboard as an alternate equivalent means of data entry. Regardless of how many keys are present, both "standard" keyboards and the keyboard of Gaultier allow for general alpha and numeric data entry.

10. With respect to claim 7, Gaultier further teaches that the portable computer is a tablet PC. (The PC can be used as a tablet as described in Column 3, Lines 2-8)

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary M. Pape whose telephone number is 571-272-2201. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thur. & every other Fri. (8:00am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached at 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Zachary M. Pape


LYNN FEILD
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